



For Immediate Release: February 9, 2007

CONTACT: Jenn MealeCounty Public Information Specialist 606-5300

Stefanie LongCity Marketing/Public Info Manager
891-8533

County-City Watershed Board Looks for "Champion" Applications Available Online; Due March 2

The Tallahassee-Leon County Watershed Management Policy Board (WMPB) is soliciting nominations for its first 'Watershed Champion Award.' Dedicated to honoring local organizations and/or individuals who provide leadership in protecting area watersheds, the Champion Award recognizes efforts to facilitate pollutant reduction and/or flood control.

On April 16, 2005, the County and City adopted an inter-local agreement to develop a formal mechanism providing for enhanced watershed protection in the capital region. The WMPB was created to identify a unified standard for stormwater protection, and the Board has set short and long-term goals that will lead to water quality improvements and the protection of our regional lakes and basins.

County Commissioner Cliff Thaell and City Commissioner Debbie Lightsey were designated by their respective commissions to serve on the WMPB, due in large measure to their individual and collective experience on local watershed protection issues.

Citizens, neighborhoods (including neighborhood/homeowners' associations), and businesses are eligible for the Watershed Champion Award. Award criteria include recognizing those who have actively promoted watershed awareness and education, as well as those who routinely practice good water management principles themselves.

For more information on watershed protection programs, or to download applications for the Champion Award, please visit the Watershed Management Policy Board's website at www.protectyourwater.org. Completed applications may be returned as follows:

- online via the website
- by mail to 301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301
- by fax to 606-5301
- by e-mail to leoncountyfl.gov.

The deadline for submitting applications is March 2. Winners will be featured on the WMPB website and recognized at Board meetings.

###